

Message

From: Magnan, Eric [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=D59A742C321248B78FCA44CD9A73551B-EMAGNAN]
Sent: 10/6/2021 5:17:52 PM
To: Berg, Elizabeth [Berg.Elizabeth@epa.gov]; Marincola, Jamie [Marincola.JamesPaul@epa.gov]; Miller, Amy [Miller.Amy@epa.gov]
Subject: FYSA: CNN Inquiry on oil spill company
Attachments: 2017.5.23_BetaOffshore_InspectionReport_CAG280000.pdf

FYSA – Additional press inquiries. Note that OCE was not aware of our regulatory authority.

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From: Magnan, Eric
Sent: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 10:14 AM
To: Calvino, Maria Soledad <Calvino.Maria@epa.gov>; Garnett, Desean <Garnett.Desean@epa.gov>
Cc: Weiss, Michael <weiss.michael@epa.gov>; Howell, Adam <Howell.Adam@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: CNN Inquiry on oil spill company

Hi Soledad,

These platforms are covered under the offshore oil and gas general permit: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/cag280000-general-permit-southern-california-offshore-oil-and-gas-exploration>. We share regulatory oversight of the platforms with BSEE. Our goal is to inspect each platform at least once every 5 years. This goal is set by the Clean Water Act compliance monitoring strategy.

The last inspections we did for platforms Ellen and Elly occurred on March 8 and March 9, 2017. The inspection report is attached.

Adam,

Can you describe for Soledad some of the key requirements of the offshore general permit and areas that are reviewed during our inspections. Can you also find the MOU between EPA and BSEE for the platform work and send it along to the group. It'd be good background info. I'll be in meetings for most of the time from 11-4pm today. Can you work with Soledad on any additional follow up questions. You can coordinate with Mike too if needed.

Thanks all,

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From: Calvino, Maria Soledad <Calvino.Maria@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 10:00 AM
To: Magnan, Eric <Magnan.Eric@epa.gov>; Garnett, Desean <Garnett.Desean@epa.gov>
Cc: Weiss, Michael <weiss.michael@epa.gov>; Howell, Adam <Howell.Adam@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: CNN Inquiry on oil spill company

Hi Eric and Desean,
We just got pulled in to a CNN inquiry from HQ OECA comms (George Hull.)
The reporter is working on a story about the offshore oil spill in Southern California, she wanted to know whether EPA conducts any oversight of offshore drilling operations -- and if so, whether we have any records of inspections/violations involving facilities operated by Beta Operating Company, LLC, or its parent company, Amplify Energy.
I sent OECA the Administrative Order on Consent from 2018 that Desean sent me yesterday for the separate LA Times inquiry, but please take a look at George Hull's email below.
Please let me know if there's anything else we can provide to OECA or if we should have a quick phone call with him to clarify anything.
Thanks!

Soledad Calvino
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From: Hull, George <Hull.George@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 9:42 AM
To: Calvino, Maria Soledad <Calvino.Maria@epa.gov>; Alpern, Michael <Alpern.Michael@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: CNN Inquiry on

Thanks, Soledad. Our Office of Compliance (OC) pulled some records (below) that they say showed an EPA inspection in 2017. This surprised me as our Office of Civil Enforcement (OCE) had told me that we didn't have authority. OCE said that the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement was the oversight agency. Just want to make sure that we are providing a consistent response. I've sent an email to OCE asking them clarify, based on the info from OC. - George

Inspections:

Both the Elly and Ellen Platforms were last inspected by EPA for CWA on 3/9/2017 and this is the only recorded EPA inspection at a Amplify Energy or Beta Operating facility.

Enforcement

FRS ID	Facility Name	Settlement Date
110064630485	PLATFORM ELLEN	04/10/2018
110042365963	PLATFORM ELLY	04/10/2018
110000915948	AMPLIFY ENERGY CORP BAIROIL CO2 RECOVERY PLANT	09/12/2017
110000915948	AMPLIFY ENERGY CORP BAIROIL CO2 RECOVERY PLANT	09/17/2018
110064630485	PLATFORM ELLEN	04/10/2018
110042365963	PLATFORM ELLY	
110000915948	MEMORIAL PROD:BAIROIL CO2 RECOVERY PLANT	09/21/1988

From: Calvino, Maria Soledad <Calvino.Maria@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 06, 2021 12:34 PM
To: Alpern, Michael <Alpern.Michael@epa.gov>; Hull, George <Hull.George@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: CNN Inquiry on

Sure thing, Mike!

Hi George,
I've attached the Administrative Order on Consent from a 2018 case. I sent this to an LA Times reporter yesterday. I'm not sure if we have much more on this company, but let me double check with our folks.
What is the reporter's deadline?

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From: Alpern, Michael <Alpern.Michael@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 9:15 AM
To: Hull, George <Hull.George@epa.gov>; Calvino, Maria Soledad <Calvino.Maria@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: CNN Inquiry on

Sole, as you dealt with a similar press request yesterday can I ask you to work with George on this? There's quite a few other new inquiries and HQ requests this AM.

Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 6, 2021, at 8:41 AM, Hull, George <Hull.George@epa.gov> wrote:

Mike,
OPA had received an inquiry from a CNN reporter who is writing about the CA oil spill and asked us for any records of inspections/violations by Beta Operating Company or its parent company, Amplify Energy. Can you give me a call to discuss. Thanks, George (tel. 202-631-6957).

Hope you're well, my name is Casey Tolan and I'm a reporter with CNN. I'm working on a story about the offshore oil spill in Southern California, and I'm just wondering whether the EPA conducts any oversight of offshore drilling operations -- and if so, whether you have any records of inspections/violations involving facilities operated by Beta Operating Company, LLC, or its parent company, Amplify Energy.

We are already in touch with the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, but I just wanted to make sure there aren't other agencies who are also working on offshore drilling oversight.